



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Violet Varona-Lukens, Executive Officer
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

County Counsel
Director of Children and Family Services

At its meeting held May 24, 2005, the Board took the following action:

27-A

Supervisor Antonovich made the following statement:

“County Counsel, on behalf of the Department of Children and Family Services, has notified Michael Nash, Presiding Judge of the Los Angeles Juvenile Court that they will no longer comply with requests for Out-of-Home Care Evaluation Unit (OHCEU) reports. These reports are considered in active tort investigations for children who are under the jurisdiction of the Juvenile Dependency Court.

“OHCEU reports are designed to ensure that children under the jurisdiction of the Los Angeles County Juvenile Dependency Court have competent legal representation to pursue potential tort claims while under juvenile court jurisdiction. The legal authority falls under Welfare and Institutions Code Section 317 (e), which requires a child’s Dependency Court attorney to ‘investigate the interests of the child beyond the scope of the juvenile proceeding and report to the court other interests of the child that may need to be protected by the institution of the other administrative or judicial proceedings.’

“Judge Nash has expressed serious concerns regarding the change in policy being made by the Department of Children and Family Services.”

Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Antonovich, seconded by Supervisor Knabe, unanimously carried (Supervisors Burke and Yaroslavsky being absent), the Director of Children and Family Services and County Counsel were directed to brief the Board as a set item on June 7, 2005, at 11:00 a.m., regarding the Department of Children and Family Services’ decision to no longer comply with requests for Out-of-Home Care Evaluation Unit reports, required by the Los Angeles Juvenile Court and designed to ensure that children under the jurisdiction of the County Juvenile Dependency Court have competent legal representation to pursue potential tort claims.

07052405_27-A

Copies distributed:
Each Supervisor
Chief Administrative Officer